

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Pope et al. Group Art Unit: Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned Unknown Filed: December 5, 2001 Examiner: Unknown Title: Filtering Device With Associated Sealing Design And Method Attorney Docket No.: 30691-00045 Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Dear Sir: This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted: X under 37 CFR 1.97(b), or (Within three months of filing national application; or date of entry of international application; or before mailing date of first office action on the merits; whichever occurs last) under 37 CFR 1.97(c) together with either a: ___ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), or a \$180.00 fee under 37 CFR 1.17(p), or (After the CFR 1.97(b) time period, but before final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first) under 37 CFR 1.97(d) together with a: ___ Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), and a \$180.00 fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). (Filed after final action or notice of allowance, whichever occurs first, but before payment of the issue fee) Applicant(s) submit herewith Form PTO 1449-Information Disclosure Citation together with copies, of patents, publications or other information of which applicant(s) are aware, which

The relevance of the attached references is that this is the closest art of which Applicant is aware.

applicant(s) believe(s) may be material to the examination of this application and for which there

may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR 1.56.

Applicant submits that the above references taken alone or in combination neither anticipate nor render obvious the present invention. Consideration of the foregoing in relation to this application is respectfully requested.

It is requested that the information disclosed herein be made of record in this application.

I hereby certify that this is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated below and is addressed to:

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office Box Patent Application P.O. Box 2327

Arlington, VA 22202

Typed Name: Jean A. Burns

Express Mail Label No.. ET 781125617 US

Date of Deposit: December 5, 2001

60076094_1.DOC

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley J. Gradisar

Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

Reg. No. 42,598

Date: December 5, 2001

Telephone No.: (303) 298-5786